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## Highlights of the Issue

### 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Directors' Meeting Goes to the Land of the Pharaohs

'Strengthened by Experience, Driven by Purpose' was the theme of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual SABIS® Directors' Meeting held in Cairo, Egypt. Taking place from June 30 to July 5, 2009, the meeting saw directors from SABIS® schools worldwide, along with SABIS® administrators and the management team, converge on Cairo to get an update on recent developments and look ahead to another promising year.

As is the case every year, attendees were inspired by the words of SABIS® co-founders, Mrs. Leila Saad and Mr. Ralph Bistany, both who reiterated the need to continually espouse the SABIS® mission and strive to transform education. In a keynote speech to open the meeting, Mrs. Leila Saad, SABIS® Chairperson, reminded all those in attendance of their role in contributing to student success: "Students who come to our schools know that we can help them to get to the best university they can hope to join. Our track records have proven that we can give the best not just to a select few, but to everyone who is willing to accept our discipline." It is our duty to open that window of hope to every student and help them achieve

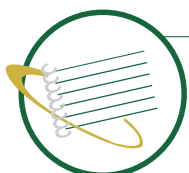


13<sup>th</sup> Annual Directors' Meeting

their full potential. In his address, Mr. Ralph Bistany, SABIS® Director General, outlined key areas that set SABIS® apart including numbers in the classroom, parent-teacher relations, and education as a business, among others.

SABIS® President, Mr. Carl Bistany, addressed fundamental questions about education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: What will schools of the 21<sup>st</sup> century look like? And most importantly, how can we best prepare students to keep pace? "To achieve this goal, education must, first and foremost, focus on building education capital in the fundamental mastery of the basics while maintaining academic

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rigor," he stated. He identified the basics as reading, reading comprehension, language skills, mathematics, and memorization. He emphasized academic rigor as a requirement in the curriculum and in the assessment process and also focused on the importance of the SABIS Student Life Organization® in developing students' "soft skills" in preparing them for the future.

This year's meeting agenda was packed with a myriad of essential topics including the SABIS® Point System®, SABIS® Software Solutions, SLO™, SABIS® Retirement Plan, and many more. Two panel sessions on 'Upholding SABIS® Standards through Discipline' and 'Getting the Most out of the SSMS' allowed attendees to share ideas and suggestions. The highlight of the meeting was the presence of two guest speakers, Steven Wilson, founder and President of the non-profit charter school management organization, Ascend Learning, Inc., and Dr. Zahi Hawass, a world-renowned Egyptian archeologist. Through the various presentations, attendees were able to explore new avenues to contribute to SABIS®'s future success on the school and corporate levels.

For more information about SABIS®, visit [www.sabis.net](http://www.sabis.net).

## Louisiana Middle School to be Managed by SABIS®



Linwood Public Charter School Campus

Linwood Public Charter School in Shreveport, Louisiana, is the newest school to join the SABIS® School Network in the U.S. in AY09-10. This move came as a result of the decision of the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to award SABIS® Educational Systems, Inc. the operation of the school.

Linwood Middle School, as it was previously named, was taken over by the Louisiana State Department of Education's Recovery School District (RSD) because it had been failing for five straight years. SABIS®, with its long-standing reputation for excellence in the full management of charter schools, was considered as the ideal choice to transform the quality of education available at the school. Since the opening of the first U.S. charter school in 1995, SABIS® has been making a difference in each of its current eight charter schools by teaching students to perform to the best of their ability and to achieve academic excellence in a global context.

By coming under the management of SABIS®, Linwood Public Charter School will aim to provide a high-quality, college-preparatory education to a highly diverse student body. Opening its doors on August 17, 2009, the Linwood Public Charter School serves approximately 700 students in grades 6-8.

Backed by the SABIS® Educational System, Linwood Public Charter School will prepare all students for success in high school and admission to college, equip them with the ability and desire for lifelong learning, and strengthen their civic, ethical, and moral values.

For more information, visit [www.linwood-sabis.net](http://www.linwood-sabis.net).

## ISC-Erbil Becomes a Cambridge International Examination Center



In April 2009, ISC-Erbil applied to the University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) to become a Center for International Exams and made the necessary preparations to meet certain requirements set forth by CIE to gain approval. To ensure that these requirements are met at each candidate site, CIE organized an inspection of ISC-Erbil and sent Mr. William Bickerdike, the Regional Manager for the Middle East, North Africa and Pakistan, to the school on May 24, 2009.

Bickerdike first met with the SABIS® representative, Mr. Raed Mahmoud, and the School Director, Dr. Humaira Bokhari, for an overview of the visit. He then toured the school campus, observed instructional practices in two separate content areas, inspected Biology, Physics, and Chemistry laboratories, preparation rooms, inventory and equipment, and extracurricular facilities.

After weeks of preparation and the field visit by CIE, ISC-Erbil was informed that it met all the standards required to become to become a Cambridge International Center. The announcement was



made by Ann Puntis, Chief Executive of University of Cambridge International Examinations on June 17, 2009.

By becoming a Cambridge International Center (CIC), ISC-Erbil joins a host of other SABIS® member schools that can administer CIE exams. Schools designated as Examination Centers demonstrate a commitment to the highest educational standards and support a reputation for excellence among parents, pupils, and the wider community. ISC-Erbil joins a network of 6,000 CIE examination centers worldwide.

In its fourth year of operation, ISC-Erbil continues to grow with an enrolment of over 1000 students, who enjoy a high-quality education experience in a supportive learning environment.

For more information about ISC-Erbil, visit [www.iscerbil-sabis.net](http://www.iscerbil-sabis.net).

## SABIS® Schools Expand Facilities



ISC-Doha Campus

Expansion of the SABIS® School Network throughout the world is going at full speed as more schools are joining the network and existing schools are adding to their facilities. In fact, many SABIS® schools in the Middle East have witnessed a substantial expansion of their campuses to accommodate the growing number of students, most notably The International School of Choueifat - Doha, Qatar, and SABIS® International School - Adma, Lebanon.



ISC-Doha Construction Site

The International School of Choueifat-Doha, which opened its doors in September 1999, initially welcomed 350 students from KG1 to Grade 9. In September 2004, the school moved to a new, purpose-built campus, which, though still under construction, currently encompasses extensive facilities that cater to 1500 students. The construction plan, now in its second phase, would enable the school to expand further over the coming months by housing 24 more classrooms, a cafeteria to accommodate 400 students, and a technologically advanced exam hall equipped with 450 computers. Furthermore, the school's capacity will increase from 1500 students to 2000 students. Once finished, the 45,000 square-meter campus will comprise an ITL hall, an auditorium, a large cafeteria, and more classes with the potential

to accommodate up to 2500 students.

At the SABIS® International School, Adma, the construction is also making headway. The school opened its doors in September 2005 with an enrollment of 80 students. Situated on the beautiful hills of Adma, the purpose-built school operated from one building housing the administration and teaching classes. Within four years, SIS grew to become a full, Pre-KG to Grade 12 school comprising state-of-the-art facilities that cater to 800 students. The 70,000 square meter campus, to be finished in the 09-10 academic year, will ensure that any increase in student enrollment can be accommodated academically and socially. This physical growth has been complemented with a growth in the Student Life Organization, which has become a fully-fledged department that caters for the academic and social development of students.



SIS-Adma Campus

Once completed, these campuses will provide modern grounds that allow students to thrive and achieve their full potential. The availability of top-notch facilities, from the classrooms to the exam hall, will provide an atmosphere conducive to learning and growth.

For more information about ISC-Doha and SIS-Adma, visit [www.iscdoha-sabis.net](http://www.iscdoha-sabis.net) and [www.sisadma-sabis.net](http://www.sisadma-sabis.net).



As a global school management organization, SABIS® serves more than 56,000 students, who come from a wide range of backgrounds; some are privileged, while others come from more challenging backgrounds. Regardless of where they start, the true measure of the individual and the SABIS® system is what they achieve.

This is the story of one SABIS® student who has overcome great odds to achieve success at a young age. Since September of 2005, Carmen (whose name has been changed in this article) has been enrolled at the Holyoke Community Charter School (HCCS) in Holyoke, Massachusetts. The K-8 public charter school, which started with 624 students and now boasts an enrolment of over 700, is one of eight charter schools operated by SABIS® in the United States.



Holyoke Community Charter School

Carmen's enrollment in HCCS played a central role in changing the direction of her young life. Carmen had to be separated from her biological parents, and at the time of her enrollment in the school, she was in foster care with parents who later turned out to be abusive. She was in the 2nd grade when she came to HCCS and came from a school where, in her words, *"It felt like I wasn't learning anything."* The staff at HCCS helped to identify the scope of Carmen's problems at home and with the help of Social Services Carmen was moved to a different foster family.

At HCCS, teachers and staff, who are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of all their students, have helped Carmen find her focus. She has made remarkable academic progress, moving up from an average performance of 50% in mathematics to 95% in Term 2 of this academic year. In English, Carmen, whose native language is Spanish, is performing at 93%. Her teachers describe her as *"always prepared", "completing her class work and homework"* and *"taking pride when she can help the teachers and her fellow peers"*.

In describing the academic obstacles and struggles she has come across, Carmen says: *"English is my second language, but at HCCS you can speak both and you learn English faster. I am working hard. One of the obstacles was getting used to so many tests. They are hard, especially as I move up grades, but it helps me to understand what I am learning. I will always try my hardest to do well."*

Carmen is a SABIS® student who serves as a role model not only for her fellow classmates at HCCS, but also for all of us who can watch her progress and know that with determination and assistance anything is possible.

For more information about HCCS, visit [www.hccs-sabis.net](http://www.hccs-sabis.net).

## ISF and ISR Students Receive IGCSE Brilliance Awards



Three students from the ISF International School Frankfurt-Rhein-Main (ISF) and one student from the ISR Internationale Schule am Rhein (ISR) received IGCSE Brilliance Awards for gaining the highest marks in Germany in the June 2008 Cambridge IGCSE examinations. ISF students stood out with their results on Information Technology and German Language, while the ISR student made her mark in Mathematics.

Every year, University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), the world's largest provider of international qualifications for 14–19 year olds, holds Brilliance Awards ceremonies around the world in order to celebrate students' outstanding results.

Cambridge IGCSE exams are taken by students from over 2,000 schools in more than 100 countries around the world. CIE awards these prizes when students are ranked in the first 10 places worldwide for that subject, or have the highest score in their country when more than 100 candidates have sat the exam. In fact, IGCSE results for 2008 across the SABIS® School Network were outstanding with 94% of students earning marks of A\* - C with A\* as the top mark.

During the awards ceremonies held at ISF and ISR, the prize-winning students received certificates to celebrate their success. In addition, two ISF students were awarded a £50 book voucher for being two of the best three candidates in the world in IGCSE First Language German. *"We hope that the recognition of Brilliance award winners will be beneficial to both your school and your students,"* stated Ann Gibson, Regional Manager, Europe in letters addressed to ISF and ISR.

With this achievement, ISF and ISR students join their counterparts in other SABIS® schools around the world who have gained CIE recognition throughout the years. This is possible thanks to the world-class curriculum inherent in the SABIS® Educational System, which prepares students to excel on a number of external exams and gain entry to the world's top universities.

For more information about ISF or ISR, visit [www.isf-sabis.net](http://www.isf-sabis.net) or [www.isr-sabis.net](http://www.isr-sabis.net).

## Testimonials

“ I have two children in the International School of ChouEIFat-Ruwais. After these years, I can say that I am very satisfied with the outcomes of my children. The school has helped them a lot academically. Students are shown how to study and how to manage time wisely. SABIS® also builds students to ensure their success in life as well. I found out that most SABIS® students turn out to be successful people in both their higher education and in their everyday life. ”

**Atef Ashkar, ISC-Ruwais Parent**

## SABIS® STARS Challenges Students



For the first time, the SABIS® STARS (Student Life Talent and Academic Regionals) Competition was held among SABIS® schools in the Gulf on April 24-25, 2009, at the International School of ChouEIFat-Sharjah. SABIS® STARS adds to the list of SABIS® activities that provide students with an outlet to display their various talents by encouraging creativity and compelling them to achieve excellence in a jovial atmosphere.

Over 160 students representing ten ISC schools participated in the competition: Abu Dhabi, Al-Ain, Doha, Dubai, Khalifa City, Manama, Military High School, Ras Al-Khaimah, Ruwais, and Sharjah. The competition spanned nine different categories: art, poster design, creative writing, photography, debate, spelling bee, speech, advertising and a science fair. Participating students worked enthusiastically prior to and during the competition to master their chosen assignment.



SABIS® Stars Participants



Students from ISC-Ruwais

In many categories, the judges, who included a Head of Department, a Director, a Deputy Director, and a number of AQC's and teachers from ISC-Sharjah and ISC-Abu Dhabi, found it hard to eliminate and then select the winners since all students displayed great talent. "On a personal note, the weekend provided me with the opportunity to get to know the students of Abu Dhabi ChouEIFat better and enabled me to get to know them as individuals outside the classroom," commented one of the judges.

Students were particularly pleased to have another opportunity to showcase their artistic skills and academic abilities. In fact, a lot of students' hidden talents were discovered and will be nurtured in their respective schools. "I would have never have imagined that I would have so much fun meeting other ChouEIFat schools, getting to know them, and actually seeing them compete in the different categories. All in all, a fantastic, unforgettable two days, that should be repeated annually so that everybody gets a chance to enjoy," stated one ISC- Sharjah student.

SABIS® STARS generated an overwhelming response and was able to contribute to SABIS® SLO™'s mission to raise academic standards and encourage development of individual talents. In the current academic year, the event, which is expected to become a fixture on the SABIS® calendar, will involve an increasing number of students, who are eager to demonstrate their abilities and meet students from throughout the network.



Students Displaying their Project

## ITL Expands to Reach More SABIS® Schools



The SABIS® Integrated Testing and Learning (ITL), one of many cutting-edge technological tools used throughout the SABIS® School Network, has been witnessing a noticeable growth through a far-reaching deployment plan in the Middle East region. SABIS® ITL is a revolutionary system that enables every student to sit for a range of tests at computer terminals. ITL exams are corrected on the spot and students are given the chance to retake the exam multiple times until they have fully grasped the material. The ITL system ensures the efficient implementation of the SABIS® Educational System and hinders the formation of learning gaps.

Today, ITL deployment is moving forward, reaching more and more schools worldwide. This year alone, ITL deployment covered over 1500 seats across SABIS® Schools' campuses over four continents, thereby adding up to the existing ITL infrastructure and providing an increasing number of students with a computer-based examination solution

In addition to the deployment, the ITL application has been restructured and now incorporates new features to enable a smooth test-taking process. These include providing a faster exam generation and upload/download process, supporting new types of exam questions, and integrating all forms of periodic exams in the ITL (multiple choice and written). Through the restructured ITL, SABIS® schools will be able to enjoy key benefits, namely saving time, paper, manpower, and equipment. *"ITL will make gap analysis more effective and provide instant feedback to students and administrators. Students' gaps are identified as soon as they form and remedied before they can interfere with the learning process,"* stated Mr. Serge Bakhos, SABIS® Vice President of Information Technology.



ITL Hall-Sharjah

As an organization at the forefront of global education, SABIS® works continually to develop programs and services which maintain it as a leader in the field of educational technology. As such, SABIS® students can enjoy a high-quality education that relies on a world-class curriculum, efficient teaching methods, and technological tools that facilitate the learning process.

## Testimonials

“ I have been working for the SABIS® network in various positions for 9 years. I have appreciated the education provided by SABIS® to students not only as a member of the staff but also as a parent. As an educator I enjoy the challenges, I appreciate the philosophy of the company (education above profit), and I feel that I am a member of a big family who shares experiences and takes very careful steps in the direction of the benefit of the school community.”

**ISF Parent and Staff Member**

## SABIS® Careers Website Supporting Recruitment Worldwide

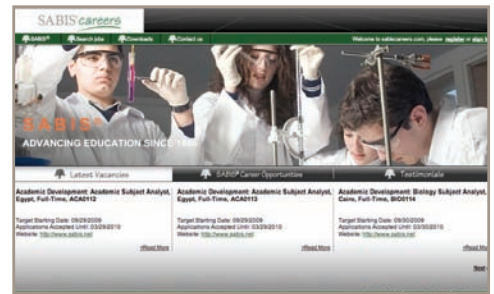


SABIS® works year-round to recruit staff. Schools in the SABIS® School Network are supported by teams of recruitment personnel in the US, Lebanon, and the UAE as vacancies become available. The effort to hire qualified individuals is facilitated by the soon-to-be-relaunched, newly-designed SABIS® Careers website - [www.sabiscareers.com](http://www.sabiscareers.com).

Featuring a dynamic homepage and design consistent with the latest corporate recruitment material, [www.sabiscareers.com](http://www.sabiscareers.com) will offer users a user-friendly interface that makes it easy to peruse the site. Interested individuals will be able to browse the tabbed navigation to learn more about SABIS®, its history, approach to education, mission, school life, and core purpose and values. They will also be redirected to the SABIS® School Network website that provides an overview of SABIS®'s global reach.

Individuals will also be able to use the SABIS® Careers main page to learn about current vacancies

or different career opportunities available in SABIS® corporate and schools worldwide. These will include internship offerings, prospects for recent graduates and benefits for experienced professionals. Visitors to the site will also have a chance to read through testimonials from current employees, parents, and even students about their experience with SABIS®. Additionally, through downloads on the site, candidates will have the opportunity to download the latest corporate newsletter or watch the latest SABIS® video.



New SABIS® Careers Main Page

An easy-to-use search feature on the site will enable interested candidates to search for job openings by detailed position summary or by location. Once candidates have found one or more vacancies to suit their knowledge, experience, and interests, candidates can submit an application after completing a quick and easy on-line registration process. Through their account on the website, applicants will edit their profiles, keep track of their application(s), view updates on the position, and withdraw their application, if so desired. Employers, in turn, will be able to search for eligible applicants, post and manage jobs, view archived jobs and a dashboard of the job statuses, send feedback, and generate and print reports.

*"The SABIS® Careers website will allow us to streamline the application process and to do so in a way that maximizes the time invested by each applicant,"* stated Mr. Bechara Khachan, SABIS® Group Human Resources Director. *"Having the resources to recruit from all across the globe and at all times in the year helps ensure that our schools have access to the best teachers and staff available."*

Through the new SABIS® Careers website, SABIS® will be able to better source and recruit qualified candidates for its growing school network and build a strong human capital that is motivated to pursue the SABIS® mission.

Look for the new SABIS® Careers website in November 2009 at [www.sabiscareers.com](http://www.sabiscareers.com).

## Student Life Training Camp Strengthens Team Spirit



A Break in Al Azhar Gardens

From the minute students landed in Egypt for the 2009 SABIS® Worldwide Student Life Training Camp, they started bonding and anticipating the days ahead. Held from July 25 through August 3, 2009, in Cairo, Egypt, this year's Student Life Training Camp gathered 74 students and 21 Student Life Coordinators hailing from 27 SABIS® member schools around the world.

*"Morale is high and there is an excited buzz in the air. There is a sense of purpose with students ready to contribute their ideas and share their skills,"* stated one student upon arriving to Cairo.

Each day of the camp was filled with inspiring sessions, which covered the Fish! Philosophy®, *The Power of Positive Thinking*, and leadership training. Engaging presentations were on the agenda, such as "The Filter", "The Power of Belief", and "Overcoming your fears." Students were mostly inspired by Sean Covey's habit number two - Begin with the end in mind - from the book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, which showed how important it is to determine one's destination in life and to create one's own mission statement.



Horseback Riding



Visit to Saladin Citadel

The sessions were complemented with motivational exercises that focused on team building. They included taking part in a challenging scavenger hunt on the school's campus, coming up with lyrics for songs related to the SLO™, and working on an advertisement about recruiting students, among others.

Through the various sessions and exercises, students learned the tools and methods of living their life in harmony and techniques to improve performance at school, strengthen social relationships, and increase happiness in the process. *"These principles can easily be applied in our schools to motivate students and make them feel good about coming to school every day,"* reflected one student.

Alongside the exciting agenda, students had the chance to discover some of the wonders of Cairo. These included visits to the Citadel built by Salah Al-Din (Saladin), Al Azhar Gardens, the Alexandria Library, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, and the Egyptian Museum. They particularly enjoyed the light and sound show at the Pyramids, the 3D exploration of the primitive lives of the inhabitants of Egypt, the stroll through Khan el Khalili, and the dinner cruise on the majestic Nile.

## SABIS Student Life Organization® at ISM Journeys to Honduras for Service and Learning



Honduras was the destination of choice for 12 members of the ISM community (eight students and four staff) as part of the first ever SLO™ ISM Service Trip in February 2009. Planned by the ISM Student Life Coordinator, a Spanish teacher, a parent, and participating students, the six-day adventure trip was complete with service, exposure, culture, learning, and fun.

During the first few days of the trip, the group visited three recipients of funding from the organization "Helping Honduras Kids" in La Ceiba, Honduras. The first stop was the Jungle School, where ISM students played games with the 50+ children aged 5-15 and donated tennis shoes that



ISM Students with Orphan Children

were purchased with the help of the ISM community. The second stop was Hogar de Amor, an orphanage in La Ceiba that houses 19 kids who have been rescued from abuse and abandonment. Donations made by ISM students and families included vitamins, toiletries, and flip-flops. After the orphanage, the group visited "Los Compesinos" ("Grandma Village"), where orphan children are looked after by a group of grandmothers who feed, clothe, house, and educate them.

The group then traveled to Villanueva, a "suburb" of San Pedro Sula. There, the students and chaperones painted an entire one-room school house-inside and out. They also visited a man who cares for his handicapped son in his mud-hut home based at the foot of an incredibly steep, loose gravel hill. The group, which delivered groceries to him, was moved by his emotional and physical strength. The ISM team also took the opportunity to serve lunch to a group of elderly men and women and visit a local medical clinic, where they learned about the challenges they face. Thanks to ISM families, the ISM crew was able to help the nurses at the clinic restock their shelves with bandages, vitamins, insulin, and more.

On the sideline of the trip, the group also relished in an afternoon of swimming in the river, climbing rocks, and enjoying the sunshine and mountainous jungle views around them.

The ISM Deputy Head of Outreach summed up the trip by saying, "It was a whirlwind of a trip and I would do it again in a heartbeat. We had an amazing trip; all of us got along great and we all had so much fun!" Indeed, this trip allowed both students and staff to learn about the Honduran culture and bond in their shared experience of service and understanding. But most importantly, the trip came in the framework of the SLO™'s focus on promoting community service projects in order to contribute to the improvement of their own lives and the lives of others.



ISM Donation to the Orphanage

For more information, visit [www.ism-sabis.net](http://www.ism-sabis.net).

## ISC-Choueifat Students Skillfully Perform *West Side Story*



Students Performing on Stage

Once again, ISC-Choueifat students captivated the audience with their interpretation of *West Side Story*, a play based on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. However, this year, the students decided to donate the proceeds of the play, which was staged at Ivoire Theater – Beirut, to the Children's Cancer Center.

Attending the performance were parents, alumni, teachers, and administrators, in addition to a large audience of students from ISC-Choueifat and ISC-Koura.





Students Showcasing their Talents

Forty-eight (48) students from various grade levels took part in the play and were aided by 15 students who assisted them backstage in stage setting, costumes, make-up, lighting and sound. Prior to the play, students spent hours rehearsing for the play under the umbrella of the SABIS Student Life Organization®. Their efforts paid off as they showcased a high level of professionalism on stage, not to mention creativity and talent.

One year after the other, ISC-Choueifat students are refining their theatrical skills and striving to stage well-known plays. Last year, their interpretation of Charles Dickens' classic "Oliver Twist" won them widespread acclaim.

Established in 1886, ISC-Choueifat - Lebanon branched out to become a well-reputed network of schools, which currently spans 15 countries and educates over 56,000 students. The school's graduates have gone to distinguish themselves in top universities worldwide and in their chosen careers.

For more information, visit [www.isclebanon-sabis.net](http://www.isclebanon-sabis.net).

## SABIS® SLO™ Consultant Brings Positive Spirit to ISC-Lahore Community



SABIS® Student Life Consultant, Roger Soweid, impressed the ISC-Lahore school community with his enthusiasm and positive attitude when he visited the school from March 24 to 27, 2009. During his brief sojourn at ISC-Lahore, Soweid conducted many seminars and met with the Heads of Departments, the teaching faculty, the students, the administrative staff, and the various SLO™ departments.



Mr. Soweid Conducting a Seminar

Through the various seminars, the ISC-Lahore community felt inspired to promote goodwill and adopt a positive approach in their daily life. *"It is a universal truth that we become so engrossed in our daily lives that we forget to appreciate the beautiful things around us. Mr. Roger brought the "human touch" back in our lives. He made us realize that love, encouragement, and care go a long way in developing healthy relationships at work and otherwise!"* stated one ISC-Lahore teacher.



Mr. Soweid Surrounded by ISC-Lahore SLO™ Students

Through an interview prepared for the school's magazine, ISC Breakthrough, Soweid shared the value added that SABIS® schools and the SLO™ bring to students. *"It is about helping make a positive difference in the world,"* is how he summed up one key aspect of the SABIS® philosophy. He also pinpointed that the SLO™ is what distinguishes SABIS® from other international schools. *"In most schools, students are 'spectators', but at SABIS®, students 'get involved' and that is a significant difference,"* he stated. He also gave out advice to ISC students saying that *"they should keep in mind that no matter what they pursue in life they should never give up and always believe in themselves and their dreams."*

ISC-Lahore, which is now in its 17<sup>th</sup> year of operation, continues to provide a high-quality educational experience to its 1500+ student body. The school's Student Life Organization has been actively trying to make a positive difference at the school by planning a variety of academic and non-academic activities that foster tolerance and teamwork.

For more information about ISC-Lahore, visit [www.isclahore-sabis.net](http://www.isclahore-sabis.net).



The International School of Choueifat – City of 6 October opened its doors in August of 2003 as a college-preparatory school that provides a top-quality education to local and international students. It initially served 84 students from Kindergarten through Grade 8. Today, the school's enrollment has topped 1,100 students, hailing from more than 20 countries, with a teaching faculty comprised of 84 members who represent 15 nationalities.

### Campus Facilities

The school is built on a 60,000 square meter site in the city of Dreamland near the Pyramids of Giza. The campus houses an administration building, two classroom buildings, junior and senior swimming pools, a sports hall, a football pitch, an athletic track, two tennis courts, three well-equipped science labs, a computer lab, an ITL exam hall, and specialty rooms for music and art. Additionally, the school recently received a license to start the second construction phase. Once this phase has been completed, the campus will feature a larger cafeteria and additional 20 classrooms to accommodate the growing number of students.



International School of Choueifat –  
City of 6 October Campus

### Academics

As a member of the SABIS® School Network, ISC-City of 6 October offers an international curriculum that equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary to gain admission to leading universities in the UK, USA, Canada, Europe, Australia, the Middle East, and the Far East. In the SABIS® Educational System, emphasis is placed upon English, mathematics, science, and world languages, which are considered key subjects, to offer a well-rounded education that paves the way for future academic success.



Infants Concert

English is the language of instruction at ISC-6 October, as in every SABIS® member school. Additionally, from KG1 ISC-6 October students learn either Arabic or French as mother tongues, and from Grade 7 onwards, French as a third language is introduced. In the secondary school, courses enable students to obtain their high school diploma by the end of Grade 12 and prepare them to sit for the British IGCSE, AS, and A – Level examinations and for the exams of the American College Board including Advanced Placement, TOEFL, SAT I, and SAT II.

### Achievements

In just six years, the International School of Choueifat - City of 6 October has been able to achieve success thanks to an ongoing focus on SABIS® philosophy, values, and goals, as well as a strong team spirit and respect for diversity. Every member of the school community is passionate about what they do and committed to bringing value to each student. As a result, the school has not only witnessed remarkable growth in student enrollment and significant staff retention, but has also recorded outstanding academic results. Over the past two years, ISC-6 October has matriculated students to top universities around the world.

ISC-6 October is accredited by ADVANCED with the USA based North Central Association (NCA). The school is also a member of The Council of International Schools (CIS) and The European Council of International Schools (ECIS).



Wall Painting

## Student Life

One of the mainstays of the SABIS® Educational System is the Student Life Organization, a parallel, student-run administration that empowers students to hold responsibility for many aspects of school life. The Student Life Organization at ISC – City of 6 October has grown at a tremendous rate over the past six years and currently operates all seven SLO™ departments from academics to management to lower school and outreach.

Academically, the SLO™ tries to assist students in need of academic support through retests, peer tutoring sessions, and an Academic Support Club. Retests allow students with lower grades to improve their average and build a better academic foundation. Peer tutors also contribute to helping students improve academically by enabling them to get a better grasp of the material and reinforcing their own knowledge. Through the Academic Support Club, ISC-6 October students contribute to raising academic standards at the school.



Peer Tutoring



Cartoonist Club

Whether as peer tutors, reinforcing their own understanding of a subject or developing interpersonal skills, or as students receiving help to master concepts, the SLO™ Academic Support Club benefits everyone involved.

Socially, the SLO™ at ISC-6 October caters to the student community through activities and events that take place during every SLO™ period. One of these activities is "Earth Care Club", in which students get the opportunity once a week to learn about their environment and come up with projects that could increase environmental awareness. Some other SABIS® SLO™ clubs at ISC-6 October include the Choueifat Youth Theater, the "Skool of Rock", the Cartoonist Club, and the Book Club.

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Through SLO™, students are encouraged to plan projects and events for fellow students. Some of the highlights from the 2008-09 academic year include the hosting of the first Carnival, the annual Infant Music Extravaganza, and the Grade 7 Terracotta Army Social Studies Project.

Implementing the SABIS® Educational System, which focuses on building a solid foundation of knowledge and essential life skills, ISC-City of 6 October continues to make a difference in the lives of students and helps prepare them for success in college and beyond.

For more information, visit [www.iscegypt-sabis.net](http://www.iscegypt-sabis.net).



Terracotta Army Project



John Yazbeck

Ever since he joined ISC-Koura in 1998, John Yazbeck has been forging ahead and stealing the show in his school and community. Throughout his school years, he was a top academic achiever, maintaining a total average of 18+/20. But Yazbeck's academic success hit a high note when he placed first in Lebanon in the Life Science Section of the official Lebanese Baccalaureate exams.

Proud of Yazbeck's feat, Mrs. Nabila Maluf, ISC – Koura Director, stated, *"John's achievements were in essence due to the wonderful synergy that took place between a very gifted student, a comprehensive system, and an extremely dedicated team of teachers, as well as parental support."*

Yazbeck's peers also expressed their delight with this achievement and added, *"All of us knew John had a great chance in making the top 10 in Lebanon, but we were thrilled when we heard he was placed first. A wonderful and well-deserved achievement!"*

Yazbeck's success also extended to outstanding results on external exams. These included an impressive 5/5 for Calculus AB, Chemistry, and Physics B on AP exams and 800/800 on Chemistry and Math II in the SAT II exams.

Contributing to his strength as a student, Yazbeck was also involved in different aspects of ISC-Koura school life. He was selected as the Head Delegate to represent the school at the United Nations Global School Project and has been a study Group Leader in the SLO™ in all his school years. His long-standing dedication was praised by the school's SLC, who stated, *"John's willingness to give up so much of his time to teach and help other students was always very noticeable and appreciated."*

At ISC-Koura, Yazbeck certainly acquired a solid foundation of knowledge that enabled to him to excel on the personal and professional levels. "John's exposure to the SABIS® methodology throughout his school career enhanced his ability to analyze concepts logically and to remain focused at all times. John is our second top 10 student in the past two years," pointed out ISC-Koura AQC.

Yazbeck was accepted at both Yale and MIT in the U.S. and received a full scholarship to pursue his studies at AUB. He is currently attending MIT and will surely continue the success he has been enjoying at school in college and future career path.

SABIS® is an educational organization that manages K-12 coeducational schools worldwide. Today, the network comprises seventy-five schools spanning across four continents. Since the first school was founded in 1886, thousands of graduates have joined top cities in North America, Europe,



## MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE SABIS® SCHOOL NETWORK

**MIDDLE EAST REGION:** The International School of Choueifat - **Choueifat, Lebanon** |The International School of Choueifat - **Sharjah, U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Al Ain, U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Ras Al Khaimah, U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Dubai, U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Umm Al Quwain, U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Koura, Lebanon** |The International School of Choueifat - **Amman, Jordan** |King Abdul Aziz International School - **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia** |The International School of Choueifat - **Doha, Qatar** |The International School of Choueifat - **Damascus, Syria** |The International School of Choueifat - **Ruwais, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Muscat, Oman** |The International School of Choueifat - **Homs, Syria** |SABIS® International School - **Adma, Lebanon** |The International School of Choueifat - **Manama, Bahrain** |The International School of Choueifat - **Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq** |The International School of Choueifat - **Abu Dhabi Khalifa City "A", U.A.E.** |The International School of Choueifat - **Suleimaniah, Kurdistan, Iraq** **PPP Schools:** Military High School - **Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.** |3 Schools - **Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq** |16 Schools in Western Region (Al Ghayathi, Al Silaa, Beda'a Al Motawa'ah, Ruwais) - **Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.** |17 in Eastern Region (Al Maqam, Al Khazna, Al Khatm, Al Ain) - **Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.** **EGYPT:** The International School of Choueifat - **Cairo, Egypt** |The International School of Choueifat - **City of 6 October, Egypt** **PAKISTAN:** The International School of Choueifat - **Lahore, Pakistan** **NORTH AMERICA:** The International School of Minnesota - **Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA** |SABIS® International Charter School - **Springfield, Massachusetts, USA** |International Academy of Flint - **Flint, Michigan, USA** |SABIS® International School - **Phoenix, Arizona, USA** |Milestone SABIS® Academy of New Orleans - **New Orleans, Louisiana, USA** |Holyoke Community Charter School - **Holyoke, Massachusetts, USA** |International Academy of Saginaw - **Saginaw, Michigan, USA** |Mt. Auburn International Academy - **Cincinnati, Ohio, USA** |Linwood Public Charter School - **Shreveport, Louisiana, USA** |Brooklyn Ascend Charter School - **Brooklyn, New York, USA (Licensed Member School)** |Brownsville Ascend Charter School - **Brooklyn, New York, USA (Licensed Member School)** **UNITED KINGDOM:** SABIS® International School UK - **Bath, England** **GERMANY:** ISF Internationale Schule Frankfurt-Rhein-Main - **Frankfurt, Germany** |ISR Internationale Schule am Rhein in Neuss - **Neuss, Germany** **ROMANIA:** Cambridge School of Bucharest - **Bucharest, Romania**

**Disclaimer:** As SABIS® is a global organization operating in several countries, English usage in the SABIS® newsletter may vary depending on the style used (U.S./ U.K.) in the region represented.